

K-9 Teams Attain National Certification



K-9 trainers from the Delaware State Police, New Castle County Police and Wilmington Police Department, recently conducted two weeks of certification training in which a total of 51 police K-9 teams from Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania participated.

This annual training which is held in conjunction with the National Police Canine Association (NPCA), ensures that all participating agencies work and train to meet the same certification standards. NPCA is a non-profit association dedicated to the training, development, and certification of law enforcement canine teams and their administrations.

Trainers from the three lead agencies are deemed certifying officials by the NPCA and conduct training for all law enforcement K-9 teams in the state under one certification standard for both patrol and scent detection (explosive and narcotic). Certification scenarios and standards for patrol include; K-9 obedience, tracking, building searches, vehicle searches and wooded area searches. The certification standards for explosives and narcotics include vehicle searches and building searches

During the week of March 26, 2018, a total of 23 K-9 teams successfully completed the NPCA patrol and explosive detection certification program. Teams which received certification included 14 DSP K-9 teams and 9 municipal K-9 teams, representing Wilmington PD, Capitol PD, Laurel PD and the Delaware County Sherriff's Office (PA).

During the week of April 2, 2018, a total of 28 K-9 teams successfully completed the patrol and narcotics detection certification program. Teams which received certification included 13 DSP K-9 teams and 15 municipal K-9 teams representing Dover PD, Newark PD, Smyrna PD, Harrington PD, Bridgeville PD, Lewes PD, Ocean View PD, Havre De Grace PD (MD) and Aberdeen PD (MD).

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

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